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**The Director of the United States
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Has received an application for a patent for a new and useful invention. The title and description of the invention are enclosed. The requirements of law have been complied with, and it has been determined that a patent on the invention shall be granted under the law.

Therefore, this

United States Patent

Grants to the person(s) having title to this patent the right to exclude others from making, using, offering for sale, or selling the invention throughout the United States of America or importing the invention into the United States of America for the term set forth below, subject to the payment of maintenance fees as provided by law.

If this application was filed prior to June 8, 1995, the term of this patent is the longer of seventeen years from the date of grant of this patent or twenty years from the earliest effective U.S. filing date of the application, subject to any statutory extension.

If this application was filed on or after June 8, 1995, the term of this patent is twenty years from the U.S. filing date, subject to any statutory extension. If the application contains a specific reference to an earlier filed application or applications under 35 U.S.C. 120, 121 or 365(c), the term of the patent is twenty years from the date on which the earliest application was filed, subject to any statutory extensions.

Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office



US006125548A

United States Patent [19]**Dunn et al.**[11] **Patent Number:** **6,125,548**[45] **Date of Patent:** ***Oct. 3, 2000**[54] **BOTTLE RACK**

5,492,237 2/1996 Chang 211/202

[75] Inventors: **Steven B. Dunn**, Beverly Hills; **Tor H. Petterson**, Rancho Polos Verdes, both of Calif.[73] Assignee: **Munchkin, Inc.**, Van Nuys, Calif.

[*] Notice: This patent is subject to a terminal disclaimer.

[21] Appl. No.: **09/513,094**[22] Filed: **Feb. 25, 2000****Related U.S. Application Data**

[63] Continuation of application No. 09/113,868, Jul. 10, 1998, Pat. No. 6,038,784.

[51] Int. Cl.⁷ **F26B 25/18**[52] U.S. Cl. **34/104; 34/107; 211/41.6; 211/74; 248/102**[58] Field of Search **34/437, 104, 105, 34/106, 107; 211/41.3, 41.5, 41.6, 71.01, 74, 181.1, 70.7, 85.18, 85.25, 41.4; 248/102**[56] **References Cited****U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

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OTHER PUBLICATIONSProduct Literature of Safety 1st entitled "Bottle & Nipple Drying Rack", 1996.

Product Literature of Mommy's Helper, Inc. entitled "Drain 'N Dry Bottle Drying Rack", 1996.

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

An apparatus for drying and storing an article, such as a baby bottle, after washing and rinsing includes a tray having a bottom face that is adapted to be supported by an underlying surface such as a counter-top, and an upper face. A plurality of pegs extend out from the upper face, and each peg is sized and arranged so as to be able to support an article, such as a baby bottle, after washing and rinsing. Each peg is mounted to the tray in such a manner as to be movable between a first storage position, wherein the entire peg is positioned relatively close to the upper face for storage and packaging, and a second, operative position. This permits the apparatus to be conveniently folded for packaging and storage purposes. Another aspect of the apparatus involves disk holding structure, connected to the upper face of the tray, for holding baby bottle disks in a location that is isolated from areas of the tray in which liquid may collect. This permits baby bottle disks to be dried and stored in a safe manner at a location that is convenient to a location at which baby bottles are being dried.

4 Claims, 3 Drawing Sheets